GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF LAW

The Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904

(VII of 1904)

(As modified upto the 1st September, 1949).

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED.

A. O. 1937 . . .	for Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Order, 1937, as modified by the Government of India (Adaptation of Indian Laws) Supplementary Order, 1937.
A. O. 1948 . . .	for Indian Independence (Adaptation of Central Acts and Ordinances) Order, 1948.
Govt.	for Government.
L. G.	for Local Government.
G. G. in C. . . .	for Governor General in Council.
Mad.	for Madras.
C. P.	for Central Provinces.
Subs.	for Substituted.
Rep.	for Repealed.
S.	for Section.

THE ANCIENT MONUMENTS PRESERVATION ACT, 1904

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Act No. VII of 1904[1]

[18th March, 1904]

An Act to provide for the preservation of Ancient Monuments and objects of archæological, historical, or artistic interest.

(As modified upto 1st September, 1949).

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the preservation of ancient monuments, for the exercise of control over traffic in antiquities and over excavation in certain places, and for the protection and acquisition in certain cases of ancient monuments and of objects of archæological, historical or artistic interest; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. **Short title and extent.**—*(1)* This Act may be called the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904.

(2) It extends to [2][all the Provinces of India], inclusive of [3]* * *, the Santhal Parganas and the Pargana of Spiti.

2. **Definitions.**—In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—

(1) "ancient monument" means any structure, erection or monument, or any tumulus or place of interment, or any cave, rock-sculpture, inscription or monolith, which is of historical, archæological or artistic interest, or any remains thereof, and includes—

(*a*) the site of an ancient monument;

(*b*) such portion of land adjoining the site of an ancient monument as may be required for fencing or covering in or otherwise preserving such monument; and

(*c*) the means of access to and convenient inspection of an ancient monument·

(2) "antiquities" include any moveable objects which [4][the Central Government], by reason of their historical or achæological associations, may think it necessary to protect against injury, removal or dispersion·

(3) "Commissioner" includes any officer authorized by [5][the Central Government] to perform the duties of a Commissioner under this Act.

(4) "maintain" and "maintenance" include the fencing, covering in, repairing, restoring and cleansing of a protected monument, and the doing of any act which may be necessary for the purpose of maintaining a protected monument or of securing convenient access thereto:

(5) "land" includes a revenue-free estate, a revenue-paying estate, and a permanent transferable tenure, whether such a estate or tenure be subject to incumbrances or not and

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[1]For Statement of Objects and Reasons, *see* Gazette of India, 1903, Pt. V, p. 513 ; for Report of the Select Committee, *see ibid.*, 1901, Pt. V, page 57 ; and for Proceedings in Council, *see ibid*, 1903, Pt. VI, pp. 166, 191 ; *ibid.*, 1904, Pt. VI, pp. 20 and 76.

This Act has been declared to be in force in the Khondmals District by the Khondmals Laws Regulation, 1936 (4 of 1936), s. 3 and Sch. ; and in the Angul District by the Angul Laws Regulation, 1936 (5 of 1936), s 3 and Sch.

It has been extended to Berar by the Berar Laws Act, 1941 (4 of 1941).

[2] Subs. by the A.O. 1948, for "the whole of British India".

[3] The words "British Baluchistan" were rep. by the A.O. 1948

[4] Subs. by the A.O. 1937, for "the Govt.".

[5] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "the L. G.".

(6) "owner" includes a joint owner invested with powers of management on behalf of himself and other joint owners, and any manager or trustee exercising powers of management over an ancient monument, and the successor in title of any such owner and the successor in office of any such manager or trustee:

Provided that nothing in this Act shall be deemed to extend the powers which may lawfully be exercised by such manager or trustee.

3. Protected monuments.—(1) The Central Government may, by notification in the [2][Official Gazette], declare an ancient monument to be a protected monument within the meaning of this Act.

(2) A copy of every notification published under sub-section (1) shall be fixed up in a conspicuous place on or near the monument, together with an intimation that any objections to the issue of the notification received by the [1][Central Government] within one month from the date when it is so fixed up will be taken into consideration.

(3) On the expiry of the said period of one month, the [1][Central Government], after considering the objections, if any, shall confirm or withdraw the notification.

(4) A notification published under this section shall, unless and until it is withdrawn, be conclusive evidence of the fact that the monument to which it relates is an ancient monument within the meaning of this Act.

Ancient Monuments.

4. Acquisition of rights in or guardianship of an ancient monument.—(1) The Collector, with the sanction of the [1][Central Government], may purchase or take a lease of any protected monument.

(2) The Collector, with the like sanction, may accept a gift or bequest of any protected monument

(3) The owner of any protected monument may, by written instrument, constitute the Commissioner the guardian of the monument, and the Commissioner may, with the sanction of the [1][Central Government], accept such guardianship.

(4) When the Commissioner has accepted the guardianship of a monument under sub-section (3), the owner shall, except as expressly provided in this Act, have the same estate, right, title and interest in and to the monument as if the Commissioner had not been constituted guardian thereof.

(5) When the Commissioner has accepted the guardianship of a monument under sub-section (3), the provisions of this Act relating to agreements executed under section 5 shall apply to the written instrument executed under the said sub-section.

(6) Where a protected monument is without an owner, the Commissioner may assume the guardianship of the monument.

5. Preservation of ancient monument by agreement.—(1) The Collector may. with the previous sanction of [3][the Central Government], propose to the owner to enter into an agreement with [4][the Central Government] for the preservation of any protected monument in his district.

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[1] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "L. G.".

[2] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "local official Gazette".

[3] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "the L. G.".

[4] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "the Secretary of State for India in Council".

(2) An agreement under this section may provide for the following matters, or for such of them as it may be found expedient to include in the agreement:—

(*a*) the maintenance of the monument;

(*b*) the custody of the monument, and the duties of any person who may be employed to watch it;

(*c*) the restriction of the owner's right to destroy, remove, alter or deface the monument or to build on or near the site of the monument;

(*d*) the facilities of access to be permitted to the public or to any portion of the public and to persons deputed by the owner or the Collector to inspect or maintain the monument;

(*e*) the notice to be given to [1][the Central Government] in case the land on which the monument is situated is offered for sale by the owner, and the right to be reserved to [1][the Central Government] to purchase such land, or any specified portion of such land, at its market-value;

(*f*) the payment of any expenses incurred by the owner or by [1][the Central Government] in connection with the preservation of the monument;

(*g*) the proprietary or other rights which are to vest in His Majesty in respect of the monument when any expenses are incurred by [1][the Central Government] in connection with the preservation of the monument;

(*h*) the appointment of an authority to decide any dispute arising out of the agreement; and

(*i*) any matter connected with the preservation of the monument which is a proper subject of agreement between the owner and [1][the Central Government].

[2]* * * * * * * *

(4) The terms of an agreement under this section may be altered from time to time with the sanction of [3][the Central Government] and with the consent of the owner.

(5) With the previous sanction of [3][the Central Government], the Collector may terminate an agreement under this section on giving six months' notice in writing to the owner.

(6) The owner may terminate an agreement under this section on giving six months' notice to the Collector.

(7) An agreement under this section shall be binding on any person claiming to be owner of the monument to which it relates, through or under a party by whom or on whose behalf the agreement was executed.

(8) Any rights acquired by [4][the Central Government] in respect of expenses incurred in protecting or preserving a monuments shall not be affected by the termination of an agreement under this section.

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[1] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "the Govt.".

[2] Sub-section (3) was rep. by the A. O. 1937.

[3] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "the L. G.".

[4] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "Govt.".

6. Owners under disability or not in possession.—(*1*) If the owner is unable, by reason of infancy or other disability, to act for himself, the person legally competent to act on his behalf may exercise the powers conferred upon an owner by section 5.

(*2*) In the case of village-property, the headman or other village-officer exercising powers of management over such property may exercise the powers conferred upon an owner by section 5.

(*3*) Nothing in this section shall be deemed to empower any person not being of the same religion as the persons on whose behalf he is acting to make or execute an agreement relating to a protected monument which or any part of which is periodically used for the religious worship or observances of that religion.

7. Enforcement of agreement.—(*1*) If the Collector apprehends that the owner or occupier of a monument intends to destroy, remove, alter, deface, or imperil the monument or to build on or near the site thereof in contravention of the terms of an agreement for its preservation under section 5, the Collector may make an order prohibiting any such contravention of the agreement.

(*2*) If an owner or other person who is bound by an agreement for the preservation or maintenance of a monument under section 5 refuses to do any act which is in the opinion of the Collector necessary to such preservation or maintenance, or neglects to do any such act within such reasonable time as may be fixed by the Collector, the Collector may authorize any person to do any such act, and the expense of doing any such act or such portion of the expense as the owner may be liable to pay under the agreement may be recovered from the owner as if it were an arrear of land-revenue.

(*3*) A person aggrieved by an order made under this section may appeal to the Commissioner, who may cancel or modify it and whose decision shall be final.

8. Purchasers at certain sales and persons claiming through owner bound by instrument executed by owner.—Every person who purchases, at a sale for arrears of land-revenue or any other public demand, or at a sale made under the Bengal Patni Taluks Regulation, 1819 (Ben. Reg. VIII of 1819) an estate or tenure in which is situated a monument in respect of which any instrument has been executed by the owner for the time being, under section 4 or section 5, and every person claiming any title to a monument from, through or under an owner who executed any such instrument, shall be bound by such instrument.

9. Application of endowment to repair of an ancient monument.—(*1*) If any owner or other person competent to enter into an agreement under section 5 for the preservation of a protected monument, refuses or fails to enter into such an agreement when proposed to him by the Collector, and if any endowment has been created for the purpose of keeping such monument in repair, or for that purpose among others, the Collector may institute a suit in the Court of the District Judge, or, if the estimated cost of repairing the monument does not exceed one thousand rupees, may make an application to the District Judge for the proper application of such endowment or part thereof.

(*2*) On the hearing of an application under sub-section (*1*), the District Judge may summon and examine the owner and any person whose evidence appears to him necessary, and may pass an order for the proper application of the endowment or of any part thereof, and any such order may be executed as if it were the decree of a Civil Court.

10. Compulsory purchase of ancient monument.—*(1)* If the [1][Central Government] apprehends that a protected monument is in danger of being destroyed, injured or allowed to fall into decay, [2][the Central Government may direct the Provincial Government to acquire it] under the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 (I of 1894), as if the preservation of a protected monument were a "public purpose" within the meaning of that Act.

(2) The powers of compulsory purchase conferred by sub-section *(1)* shall not be exercised in the case of—

(a) any monument which or any part of which is periodically used for religious observances; or

(b) any monument which is the subject of a subsisting agreement executed under section 5.

(3) In any case other than the cases referred to in sub-section *(2)* the said powers of compulsory purchase shall not be exercised unless the owner or other person competent to enter into an agreement under section 5 has failed, within such reasonable period as the Collector may fix in this behalf, to enter into an agreement proposed to him under the said section or has terminated or given notice of his intention to terminate such an agreement.

[3][**10A. Power of Central Government to control mining, etc., near ancient monument.**—*(1)* If the [1][Central Government] is of opinion that mining, quarrying, excavating, blasting and other operations of a like nature should be restricted or regulated for the purpose of protecting or preserving any ancient monument, the [1][Central Government] may, by notification in the [4][Official Gazette], make rules—

(a) fixing the boundaries of the area to which the rules are to apply,

(b) forbidding the carrying on of mining, quarrying, excavating, blasting or any operation of a like nature except in accordance with the rules and with the terms of a licence, and

(c) prescribing the authority by which, and the terms on which, licences may be granted to carry on any of the said operations.

(2) The power to make rules given by this section is subject to the condition of the rules being made after previous publication.

(3) A rule made under this section may provide that any person committing a breach thereof shall be punishable with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

(4) If any owner or occupier of land included in a notification under sub-section *(1)* proves to the satisfaction of the [1][Central Government] that he has sustained loss by reason of such land being so included, the [1][Central Government] shall pay compensation in respect of such loss.]

11. Maintenance of certain protected monuments.—*(1)* The Commissioner shall maintain every monument in respect of which the Government has acquired any of the rights mentioned in section 4 or which the Government has acquired under section 10.

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[1] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "L. G.".

[2] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "the L. G. may proceed to acquire it".

[3] S. 10A ins. by the Ancient Monuments Preservation (Amendment) Act, 1932 (18 of 1932), s. 2

[4] Subs. by the A. O 1937, for "local official Gazette".

(2) When the Commissioner has accepted the guardianship of a monument under section 4, he shall, for the purpose of maintaining such monument, have access to the monument at all reasonable times, by himself and by his agents, subordinates and workmen, for the purpose of inspecting the monument, and for the purpose of bringing such materials and doing such acts as he may consider necessary or desirable for the maintenance thereof.

12. Voluntary contributions.—The Commissioner may receive voluntary contributions towards the cost of maintaining a protected monument and may give orders as to the management and application of any funds so received by him:

Provided that no contribution received under this section shall be applied to any purpose other than the purpose for which it was contributed.

13. Protection of place of worship from misuse, pollution or desecration.—(*1*) A place of worship or shrine maintained by the Government under this Act shall not be used for any purpose inconsistent with its character.

(*2*) Where the Collector has, under section 4, purchased or taken a lease of any protected monument, or has accepted a gift or bequest, or the Commissioner has, under the same section, accepted the guardianship thereof, and such monument, or any part thereof, is periodically used for religious worship or observances by any community, the Collector shall make due provision for the protection of such monument, or such part thereof, from pollution or desecration—

(*a*) by prohibiting the entry therein, except in accordance with conditions prescribed with the concurrence of the persons in religious charge of the said monument or part thereof, of any person not entitled so to enter by the religious usages of the community by which the monument or part thereof is used, or

(*b*) by taking such other action as he may think necessary in this behalf.

14. Relinquishment of Government rights in a monument.—With the sanction of [1][the Central Government], the Commissioner may—

(*a*) where rights have been acquired by [2][the Central Government] in respect of any monument under this Act by virtue of any sale, lease, gift or will, relinquish the rights so acquired to the person who would for the time being be the owner of the monument if such rights had not been acquired; or

(*b*) relinquish any guardianship of a monument which he has accepted under this Act.

15. Right of access to certain protected monuments.—(*1*) Subject to such rules as may after previous publication be made by [1][the Central Government], the public shall have a right of access to any monument maintained by [3][the Central Government] under this Act.

(*2*) In making any rule under sub-section (*1*) [1][the Central Government] may provide that a breach of it shall be punishable with fine which may extend to twenty rupees.

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[1] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "the L. G.".

[2] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "Govt.".

[3] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "the Govt."

16. Penalties.—Any person other than the owner who destroys, removes, injuries, alters, defaces or imperils a protected monument, and any owner who destroys, removes, injures, alters, defaces or imperils a monument maintained by [1][the Central Government] under this Act or in respect of which an agreement has been executed under section 5, and any owner or occupier who contravenes an order made under section 7, sub-section (*1*), shall be punishable with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees, or with imprisonment which may extend to three months, or with both.

Traffic in Antiquities

17. Power to Central Government to control traffic in antiquities.—(*1*) If the [2][Central Government] apprehends that antiquities are being sold or removed to the detriment of India or of any neighbouring country, [3][it] may, by [4]notification in the [5][Official Gazette], prohibit or restrict the bringing or taking by sea or by land of any antiquities or class of antiquities described in the notification into or out of [6][the Provinces] or any specified part of [6][the Provinces].

(*2*) Any person who brings or takes or attempts to bring or take any such antiquities into or out of [6][the Provinces] or any part of [6][the Provinces] in contravention of a notification issued under sub-section (*1*), shall be punishable with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees

(*3*) Antiquities in respect of which an offence referred to in sub-section (*2*) has been committed shall be liable to confiscation.

(*4*) An officer of Customs, or an officer of Police of a grade not lower than Sub-Inspector, duly empowered by the [7][Central Government] in this behalf, may search any vessel, cart or other means of conveyance, and may open any baggage or package of goods, if he has reason to believe that goods in respect of which an offence has been committed under sub-section (*2*) are contained therein.

(*5*) A person who complains that the power of search mentioned in sub-section (*4*) has been vexatiously or improperly exercised may address his complaint to the [7][Central Government], and the [7][Central Government] shall pass such order and may award such compensation, if any, as appears to it to be just.

Protection of Sculptures, Carvings, Images, Bas-reliefs, Inscriptions or like objects.

18. Power to Central Government to control moving of sculptures, carvings or like objects.—(*1*) If [8][the Central Government] considers that any sculptures, carvings, images, bas-reliefs, inscriptions or other like objects ought not to be moved from the place where they are without the sanction of [9][the Central

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[1] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "Govt.".

[2] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "G. G. in C.".

[3] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "he".

[4] *See* notification No. 110, dated 28th May, 1917, Gazette of India, 1917, Part I, p. 989, and notification No. 1385, dated 8th July 1924, Gazette of India, 1924, Pt. I, p. 614 ; Gen. R. & O., Vol. III.

[5] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "Gazette of India".

[6] Subs. by the A. O. 1948, for "British India".

[7] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "L. G.".

[8] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "the L. G.".

[9] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "the Govt.".

Government], [1][the Central Government] may by notification[2] in the [3][Official Gazette], direct that any such object or any class of such objects shall not be moved unless with the written permission of the Collector.

(*2*) A person applying for the permission mentioned in sub-section (*1*) shall specify the object or objects which he proposes to move, and shall furnish, in regard to such object or objects, any information which the Collector may require.

(*3*) If the Collector refuses to grant such permission, the applicant may appeal to the Commissioner, whose decision shall be final.

(*4*) Any person who moves any object in contravention of a notification issued under sub-section (*1*), shall be punishable with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees.

(*5*) If the owner of any property proves to the satisfaction of [1][the Central Government] that he has suffered any loss or damage by reason of the inclusion of such property in a notification published under sub-section (*1*), [1][the Central Government] shall either—

(*a*) exempt such property from the said notification;

(*b*) purchase such property, if it be moveable, at its market value; or

(*c*) pay compensation for any loss or damage sustained by the owner of such property, if it be immoveable

19. Purchase of sculptures, carvings or like objects by the Government.—(*1*) If [1][the Central Government] apprehends that any object mentioned in a notification issued under section 18, sub-section (*1*), is in danger of being destroyed, removed, injured or allowed to fall into decay, [1][the Central Government] may pass orders for the *compulsory purchase* of such object at its market-value, and the Collector shall thereupon give notice to the owner of the object to be purchased.

(*2*) The power of compulsory purchase given by this section shall not extend to—

(*a*) any image or symbol actually used for the purpose of any religious observance; or

(*b*) anything which the owner desires to retain on any reasonable ground personal to himself or to any of his ancestors or to any member of his family.

[4][*Archæological Excavation.*]

[4][**20. Power of Central Government to notify areas as protected.**—(*1*) If the [5][Central Government] [6]* * *is of opinion* that excavation for archæological purposes in any area should be restricted and regulated in the interests of archæological research, the [5][Central Government] may, by notification in the [7][Official Gazette] specifying the boundaries of the area, declare it to be a protected area.

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[1] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "the L. G.".

[2] For notification under this section, issued before the 1st April, 1937, by the Government of—

(1) Bengal, *see* Calcutta Gazette, 1908, Pt. I, p. 1248, and *ibid.*, 1909, Pt. I, p. 23; and p. 957 as to Gaya District.

(2) Central Provinces, *see* C. P. Gazette, 1906, Pt. III, p. 616.

[3] Subs. by the A.O. 1937, for "local official Gazette".

[4] This heading and Ss. 20, 20A, 20B and 20C were subs. by the Ancient Monuments Preservation (Amendment) Act, 1932 (18 of 1932), s. 3, for the original heading and s. 20.

[5] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "G. G. in C.".

[6] The words "after consulting the L. G." rep. by the A. O. 1937.

[7] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "Gazette of India".

(*2*) From the date of such notification all antiquities buried in the protected area shall be the property of [1][the Crown] and shall be deemed to be in the possession of [1][the Crown], and shall remain the property and in the possession of [1][the Crown] until ownership thereof is transferred; but in all other respects the rights of any owner or occupier of land in such area shall not be affected.]

[2][**20A. Power to enter upon and make excavations in a protected area.**—(*1*) Any officer of the Archæological Department or any person holding a licence under section 20B may, with the written permission of the Collector, enter upon and make excavations in any protected area.

(*2*) Where, in the exercise of the power conferred by sub-section (*1*), the rights of any person are infringed by the occupation or disturbance of the surface of any land, [3][the Central Government] shall pay to that person compensation for the infringement.]

[2][**20B. Power of Central Government to make rules regulating archæological excavation in protected areas.**—(*1*) The [4][Central Government] may make rules—

(*a*) prescribing the authorities by whom licences to excavate for archæological purposes in a protected area may be granted;

(*b*) regulating the conditions on which such licences may be granted, the form of such licences, and the taking of security from licensees;

(*c*) prescribing the manner in which antiquities found by a licensee shall be divided between [1][the Central Government] and the licensee, and

(*d*) generally to carry out the purposes of section 20.

(*2*) The power to make rules given by this section is subject to the condition of the rules being made after previous publication.

(*3*) Such rules may be general for all protected areas for the time being, or may be special for any particular protected area or areas.

(*4*) Such rules may provide that any person committing a breach of any rule or of any condition of a licence shall be punishable with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees, and may further provide that where the breach has been by the agent or servant of a licensee the licensee himself shall be punishable.]

[2][**20C. Power to acquire a protected area.**—If the [4][Central Government] is of opinion that a protected area contains an ancient monument or antiquities of national interest and value, [5][it] may direct the [6][Provincial Government] to acquire such area, or any part thereof, and the [6][Provincial Government] may thereupon acquire such area or part under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 (I of 1894), as for a public purpose].

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[1] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "Govt.".

[2] *See* footnote 4 on pre-page.

[3] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "the Govt.".

[4] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "G. G. in C.".

[5] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "he".

[6] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "L. G.".

21. Assessment of market-value or compensation.—(*1*) The market-value of any property which Government is empowered to purchase at such value under this Act, or the [1]* * compensation to be paid by Government in respect of anything done under this Act, shall, where any dispute arises [2][in respect] of such market-value or compensation, be ascertained in the manner provided by the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, sections 3, 8 to 34, 45 to 47, 51 and 52 so far as they can be made applicable:

Provided that when making an inquiry under the said Land Acquisition Act, 1894, the Collector shall be assisted by two assessors, one of whom shall be a competent person nominated by the Collector, and one a person nominated by the owner or, in case the owner fails to nominate an assessor within such reasonable time as may be fixed by the Collector in this behalf, by the Collector.

22. Jurisdiction.—A Magistrate of the third class shall not have jurisdiction to try any person charged with an offence against this Act.

23. Power to make rules.—(*1*) The [3][Central Government] [4]* * may make rules[5] for carrying out any of the purposes of this Act.

(*2*) The power to make rules given by this section is subject to the condition of the rules being made after previous publication.

24. Protection to public servants acting under Act.—No suit for compensation and no criminal proceeding shall lie against any public servant in respect of any act done, or in good faith intended to be done, in the exercise of any power conferred by this Act.

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[1] The words "amount of " rep. by the Ancient Monuments Preservation (Amendment) Act, 1932 (18 of 1932), s. 4.

[2] Subs. by s. 4, *ibid.*, for "touching the amount".

[3] Subs. by the A. O. 1937, for "G. G. in C.".

[4] The words "or the L. G." rep. by the A.O. 1937.

[5] For rules made by the Mad. Govt. before the 1st April 1937, forthe decipherment, publication, and custody of Indian inscriptions on stone and copper, *see* Mad. R. and O.

GIPD—S1—625 M of Law.—10-10-49.—1000